

CLAIMS

1. An arrangement for clamping a saw blade to a reciprocable shaft, the shaft including a retaining member on which a blade for clamping may be mounted; the retaining member being lockable in at least two positions, each of the at least two positions clamping the blade at a predetermined angle relative to the shaft.

2. An arrangement according to claim 1, further including restraining means for restraining movement of the blade, in a direction perpendicular to the line of reciprocation of the shaft, when the blade is clamped.

3. An arrangement according to claim 1, wherein the retaining member comprises a pin normally biased into a first position and which pin is moveable into a second position.

4. An arrangement according to claim 3, wherein the pin carries a lug having a predetermined shape, which lug is arranged to co-operate with a correspondingly shaped recess.

5. An arrangement according to claim 4, wherein the pin may rotate about an axis such that when the lug is rotationally aligned with the recess, the biasing action causes the lug to fit within the recess thereby preventing further rotation of the pin about the axis.

6. An arrangement according to claim 5 wherein, when the lug is within the recess, the retaining member is locked.

7. An arrangement according to claim 4, wherein a blade for clamping is mounted on the lug.

8. An arrangement according to claim 2, wherein the restraining means comprises a plurality of arms depending from the shaft.

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9. An arrangement according to claim 8, wherein the plurality of arms are arranged in pairs and a blade for clamping is positioned between a pair of the arms when clamped.

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10. A arrangement according to claim 1 further comprising a saw blade, the saw blade further comprising:

a main body portion; a shank extending from the main body portion; and a mounting hole formed in the shank to enable operative coupling of the saw blade to the retaining member,

10 the saw blade characterised in that the mounting hole extends in two dimensions, the length of the extent in one dimension being greater than the length of the extent in the other dimension, and wherein the one dimension extends generally perpendicularly with respect to the other dimension.

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11. An arrangement according to claim 10, wherein the shank is integral with the body portion.

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12. An arrangement according to claim 10, wherein the mounting hole is formed within the body of the saw blade and does not touch any peripheral surface of the saw blade.

13. An arrangement according to claim 10, wherein the mounting hole is rectangular, oval or elliptical in shape.

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14. An arrangement according to claim 10, wherein the length of extent is greater for the dimension parallel with the line of action of the saw blade in use than for the dimension perpendicular with the direction of the line of action of the saw blade in use.

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15. A reciprocating saw comprising a housing, a motor contained in said housing and a reciprocating shaft driven by said motor, said shaft including a blade mount, said blade mount further comprising:

a first wall having a recess formed therein;

5 a pin disposed through said first wall member at the location of said recess and having a lug formed on one end thereof, said lug having a shape corresponding to that of said recess, said pin biased with said lug received in said recess, said pin movable against said bias to move said lug out of said recess, said pin secured against rotation while said lug is received in said recess and said pin rotatable when said lug is moved
10 out of said recess;

and a second wall disposed adjacent to and spaced from said first wall.

16. The saw recited in claim 15 further comprising a saw blade having a shank with a hole formed therein, said hole corresponding in shape to the shape of said lug,

15 wherein said blade may be mounted on said blade mount by moving said lug out of said recess, placing said hole over said lug, and rotating said blade such that said walls flank said shank.

20 17. The saw recited in claim 16, said lug and recess having a shape which allows said lug to be blocked against being received in said recess in at least one position of rotation of said pin, said second wall not extending adjacent said first wall at the location of said pin.

18. The saw recited in claim 17, wherein said shape is non-circular.

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19. The saw recited in claim 18, wherein said shape is oval.